Various sugar related articles

The Executive Director would like to draw your attention to the articles below all of which are relevant to the sugar sector.

**Sugaronline EBriefing**

**US: Department of Commerce raises Mexico’s sugar export limit**
The US Department of Commerce (DOC) on April 29 announced an increase in the amount of raw sugar that Mexico can export to the United States in the current marketing year, according to Baking Business.

The DOC announced the increase in response to a request by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), which said that it had identified a need for additional sugar supplies in the US market, requesting an increase in Mexico’s export limit by 170,000 short tons, raw value.

The USDA also requested that the additional sugar must have a polarity of less than 99.2 degrees.

**TURKEY: Beet sugar production seen up to 3.1 M tonnes in 2022/23**
Turkey’s beet sugar production is expected to rise by 300,000 metric tonnes, to 3.1 million tonnes in the 2022/23 marketing year (MY), according to the US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) post in Ankara, reports Sugaronline.

“In response to an increase in the seasonal sugar beet purchase price, farmers are expected to plant more beets in MY 2022/23,” the USDA said in a report released on April 21.

“With the sugar production quota for this period set at about 2.8 million tonnes, the excess in sugar production will go for export.”
Sugar beet production is forecast at 21.5 million tonnes, up by 2 million tonnes from the previous year, assuming improved weather conditions and a slight increase in area harvested as farmers respond to increases in the government-mandated beet purchase price and sugar production quota.

**PHILIPPINES: Government collects US$2 million from sugar tax daily**
Taxes charged on sugar-sweetened beverages in the Philippines amount to PHP105 million (US$2 million) every day, said Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez, according to PhilStar.

The government charges PHP6 (US$0.11) per litre on drinks containing caloric and noncaloric sweeteners and PHP12 (US$0.23) per liter on beverages with high-fructose corn syrup.

Dominguez also said that revenues have also improved due to additional taxes on cigarettes.
The government has been relying on fiscal reforms to generate revenues to finance economic recovery after the pandemic.
ED & F Man

India: Maharashtra headed for a record sugar production – The Hindu Businessline - Maharashtra mills together might produce a record 136 lakh tonnes of sugar this season as the crushing will continue till May end. About 4M MT of sugarcane is still standing in the fields and 130 harvesters are in operation to cut the excess crop. The State government has announced a grant to sugar mills to crush the excess cane. As of now, majority of the uncrushed sugarcane is in Marathwada region. SMills are likely to crush 130.7M MT of sugarcane by the end of this season. Industry players say that the State government’s assistance to mills has played a major role to convince mill directors to crush all the available sugarcane in the locality. According to the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA), sugar production in Maharashtra till April 15, 2022 was 12.64M MT compared with 10.395M MT tonnes produced in the same period previous season. In the current 2021-22 sugar season, reportedly 45 mills have closed their crushing operations in the State and 153 sugar mills are operating. On the corresponding date in last season, only 54 mills were in operation in the State, which went on to add another about 0.25M MT of sugar production last year.

Brazil: Sugarcane production cost grows in 2021-22, Pecege analyzes 56 plants - Novacana - High prices, but costs too. Although the research by the Institute for Research and Continuing Education in Economics and Management (Pecege) on expenses with the production of sugarcane, ethanol, sugar and bioelectricity in the Center-South region has not focused on the margins of the mills, it is clear that, despite of the considerably higher expenses in 2021/22, the units benefited from more favorable gains compared to those seen in previous seasons. But this does not mean that the sugar-energy companies did not have to face challenges in the season: from the reduction of productivity due to climatic problems to the increase in the price of diesel, which impacts on machinery expenses, through the increase in expenditure on agricultural inputs. To top it off, spending on labor and leases also grew. In a sector characterized by its high fixed cost, these circumstances reduced the ability to dilute expenses in the industrial area, which was also burdened by the rise in chemical inputs and maintenance materials. As a result, the total agro-industrial cost increased by 41%, according to Pecege.

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‘Soft drinks are well placed to confront the HFSS opportunity’, says Britvic

The soft drinks category will be affected by new HFSS legislation coming into force in England. But having already done plenty of work in reformulating and innovating for the UK sugar tax, the sector is well placed to turn a challenge into an opportunity, says soft drink manufacturer Britvic.

https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2022/05/04/soft-drinks-are-well-placed-to-confront-the-hfss-opportunity-says-britvic.

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